

In the Claims:

1 1. (original) A lithium battery comprising a positive
2 electrode, a negative electrode, and a non-aqueous
3 electrolyte,

4 wherein manganese dioxide containing 0.1 to 3 % by
5 weight of boron is used as said positive electrode and a
6 lithium alloy containing 0.05 to 2 % by weight of aluminum
7 is used as said negative electrode.

1 2. (original) The lithium battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said boron is added to manganese dioxide by adding
3 boric acid.

1 3. (original) The lithium battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein the positive electrode is produced by heat
3 treatment of manganese dioxide after addition of boron at
4 a temperature ranging from 350 to 430°C.

1 4. (currently amended) The lithium battery according to claim
2 1, wherein said positive electrode further includes 0.02 to
3 2 % by weight of phosphorus ~~is further added to manganese~~
4 ~~dioxide of said positive electrode.~~

1 5. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 1, being a
2 lithium primary battery that is manufactured in an
3 initially charged condition and is not for recharging.

6. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 1, wherein said positive electrode does not contain lithium in an initial as-manufactured condition of said positive electrode.

7. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 1, wherein said positive electrode consists essentially of said manganese dioxide, said boron, and carbon in an initial as-manufactured condition of said positive electrode.

8. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 1, wherein said boron is provided in a lithium-boron compound, and wherein, in an initial as-manufactured condition of said positive electrode, said positive electrode does not contain lithium beyond lithium included in said lithium-boron compound.

9. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 4, wherein said phosphorous is provided in a lithium-phosphorous compound, and wherein, in an initial as-manufactured condition of said positive electrode, said positive electrode does not contain lithium beyond lithium included in said lithium-phosphorous compound.

10. (new) The lithium battery according to claim 1, wherein said manganese dioxide does not contain lithium in an initial as-manufactured condition of said positive electrode.

1 **11.** (new) A lithium battery comprising:

2 a positive electrode comprising manganese dioxide and
3 0.1 to 3 weight percent of boron;

4 a negative electrode comprising a lithium alloy
5 containing lithium and 0.05 to 2 weight percent of
6 aluminum; and

7 a non-aqueous electrolyte;

8 wherein said battery is manufactured in an initially
9 charged condition and does not require electrical charging.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]